Lower Extremity Arterial By-Pass

A lower extremity arterial by-pass graft is a surgical procedure used to correct arteriosclerosis of the extremities (legs and feet). Since it is a hardening of the arteries, arteriosclerosis results in decreased blood flow to these areas resulting in pain, especially when walking, numbness, tingling, and weakness. In some severe cases, patients develop an ulcer, or sore, on the leg or foot that doesn't heal. Factors that contribute to this disease include smoking, high blood pressure, diabetes, high cholesterol, a family history of heart or vascular disease, or being overweight.

Lower extremity arterial by-pass grafts are performed only on severe cases where the ability to work or pursue essential activities is affected. In this procedure, a vein graft from another part of the body or a graft made from artificial material is used to create a detour around the blocked artery.

Research studies indicate that low volume hospitals are those that perform fewer than 20 lower extremity arterial by-pass grafts per year.

[See page 20 for references, number 7.]

Procedure-Specific Questions

◆ From what part of my body will the vein graft be taken?
◆ If you cannot take a vein graft from my body, what kind of material will you use to make one? How will my body respond to this artificial material?
◆ What will my recovery be like?
◆ Is there a chance that my arteries will harden again?
◆ Will I be able to exercise vigorously after my surgery?
◆ Will my pain be alleviated after the surgery is completed?
◆ Will I be able to resume my normal daily activities after my surgery?

(See page 3 for other questions)

Region / Subregion / Hospital	Average Annual Volume
Central / Northeastern Region	
Columbia	
Boone Hospital Center	116
Columbia Regional Hospital	4
University Hospitals and Clinics	80
Jefferson City	
Capital Region Medical Center	22
St. Mary's Health Center	37
Rest of Area	
Audrain Medical Center	5
Bothwell Regional Health Center	14
Fitzgibbon Hospital	2
Hannibal Regional Hospital	14
Lake Regional Health System	27
Northeast Regional Medical Center	19
Kansas City / Western Region	
Clay / Platte Counties	
Liberty Hospital	41
North Kansas City Hospital	93
St. Luke's Northland Hospital	5
Eastern Jackson County	
Independence Regional Health Center	29
Lees Summit Hospital	7
Medical Center of Independence	17
St. Mary's Hospital of Blue Springs	6
Kansas City (Jackson County)	
Baptist Medical Center	60
Research Medical Center	142
Saint Joseph Health Center	53
Saint Luke's Hospital	101
Truman Medical Center-Hospital Hill	43
Rest of Area	
Cameron Community Hospital	4
Heartland Regional Medical Center	49

Region
  Subregion
    Hospital
	Average
	Annual
	Volume

Southeastern Region	
Cape Girardeau	
Saint Francis Medical Center	109
Southeast Missouri Hospital	49
Farmington	
Mineral Area Regional Medical Center	3
Parkland Health Center	15
Poplar Bluff	
Three Rivers Healthcare	1
Rest of Area	
Missouri Delta Medical Center	19
Southwestern Region	
Joplin	
Freeman Health System	62
St. John's Regional Medical Center	170
Springfield	
Lester E. Cox Medical Center South	145
St. John's Regional Health Center	85
Rest of Area	
Freeman Neosho Hospital	2
Skaggs Community Health Center	4

Region
  Subregion
    Hospital
	Average
	Annual
	Volume

St Louis / Eastern Region	
St. Charles County	
Barnes-Jewish St. Peter's Hospital	13
Crossroads Regional Hospital	6
SSM St. Joseph Health Center	79
SSM St. Joseph Hospital West	1
St. Louis City / County	
Barnes-Jewish Hospital	328
Christian Hospital Northeast-Northwest	106
Depaul Health Center	51
Des Peres Hospital	21
Forest Park Hospital	51
Missouri Baptist Medical Center	179
Saint Louis University Hospital	56
Southpointe Hospital	8
SSM St. Joseph Hospital of Kirkwood	47
SSM St. Mary's Health Center	76
St. Alexius Hospital	14
St. Anthony's Medical Center	142
St. John's Mercy Medical Center	160
St. Luke's Hospital	72
Rest of Area	
Jefferson Memorial Hospital	19
Lincoln County Memorial Hospital	1
St. John's Mercy Hospital Washington	15